



84 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611
 Ph.: (989) 662-6861 Fax: (989) 662-0064
www.auburnac.org
 Facebook: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan
 My Parish App: St. Gabriel Parish, Auburn, Michigan

PASTOR

Rev. Marc Hopps.....mhopps@auburnac.org

PARISH STAFF

Office Kim Grant.....parishoffice@auburnac.org
 Parish Office Hours...Monday-Friday 8:30 am – 4:30 pm

Bookkeeper
 Janet Woronoff.....bookkeeper@auburnac.org

Director of Faith Formation..... (989) 662-4335
 Cassie Romzek.....faithformation@auburnac.org

Music Director
 Sue LeVasseur..... musicdirector@auburnac.org

Youth Minister
 Misty Michelle.....youthff@auburnac.org

LAY MINISTERS

Anne Dearington Cheryl Gedraitis Marilyn Welz
 Kellie Deming Connie Kaczynski Tim Hadd
 Pam Gaul-Gwizdala

PRAYER LINE

Mary Jane..... (989) 513-5137 vicmaryj@hotmail.com
 Sisters of St. Clare srsclare.com/prayer

BEFRIENDER

Mary Ellyn Gushow (989) 662-6745

COMMUNION FOR HOMEBOUND

Pam Gaul-Gwizdala (989) 513-3027

MASS SCHEDULE

Tuesday and Thursday 8 AM (On the *First Thursday* of the month the daily Thursday Mass is at 6:30 PM)
 1ST and 3RD Wednesday of the month 9 AM
First Thursday of the month 6:30 PM (*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 7pm and Night prayer 8pm to follow Mass*)
 First Friday of the month 8 AM
 Saturday 4:30 PM Sunday 9:30 AM

NEW PARISHIONERS

Contact Parish Office for appointment to register.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Must be active, registered member of parish. Contact the Parish Office for more details.

SACRAMENT OF MARRIAGE

Arrangements should be made by contacting the Parish Office at least six months in advance. Must be active, registered member of parish family.

SACRAMENT OF THE SICK

Notify Parish Office of parishioners experiencing serious illness, injury, or hospitalization. Communal Anointing of the Sick is celebrated annually in the Fall.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Also, by appointment. Please email Fr. Marc
 5 -6 pm *First Thursday* of the month
 3-4 PM Saturday

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL
 114 W. Midland Rd., Auburn, MI 48611
 Phone (989) 662-6431 Fax: (989) 662-3391
www.auburnacschool.org
 Clark Switalski, Principal.....cswitalski@auburnac.org
 School Office.....schooloffice@auburnac.org

SCHOOL ENDOWMENT: "SPREADING THE SPIRIT FUND"
 Clark Switalski, School Principal..... (989) 662-6431

WEATHER POLICY

If Bay City Public Schools or Auburn Area Catholic School close due to inclement weather, daytime (8:00 AM – 4:00 PM), parish activities are canceled. Cancellation of all (including the St Anthony site) evening activities will be announced by 3:00 PM. Closures will be posted on TV: NBC 25, ABC 12, CBS 5

Week of December 18th, 2023

Monday

194: Jer 23:5-8 Mt 1:18-25

Tuesday 8 am Mass

195: Jgs 13:2-7, 24-25a Lk 1:5-25

Wednesday

196: Is 7:10-14 Lk 1:26-38

Thursday 8 am Mass

197: Sg 2:8-14 Lk 1:39-45

Friday

198: 1 Sm 1:24-28 Lk 1:46-56

Saturday Confessions 3-4 pm 4:30 pm Mass

199: Mal 3:1-4, 23-24 Lk 1:57-66

Sunday 9:30 am Mass 5 pm Mass Christmas Vigil

11:2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16 Ps 89:2-5, 27, 29 Rom 16:25-27

Lk 1:26-38



EDUCATION / FORMATION

Cassie Romzek, Director of Faith Formation

Family Talk Time: *Celebrating Sunday for Catholic Families:*

By Sara McGinnis Lee John said: "I am the voice of one crying in the desert, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as Isaiah the prophet said." What does it mean to be a witness? How does John the Baptist witness to the light who is to come? We are all called to testify to the light of how we live our lives and treat each other.

Reflecting on the Word:



John the Baptist's entire mission is to point others to Jesus. This is our role as parents, yes? We lead our children to Jesus in many ways-by displaying images of Jesus in our homes, by praying and saying the holy name of Jesus, and by teaching our children how to make the sign of the cross and the appropriate gestures and responses at Mass. Sharing our faith with our children is a big and important task, and at times, we, like John, may feel unworthy of the task. Yet God has called us to point our children to Jesus! As you seek to do this, invite the Holy Spirit to guide you.

Living the Word:

In your time together, invite your family members to think of all the ways that Jesus invites us to walk as children of the light. How are we called to speak for the light? How can we testify to the light by the way we live our lives? Light a candle (either a real one or a battery operated one for safety purposes) and place it on the table where your family eats meals together as a reminder of our call bring the light of Christ to those around us.

Reminder:

December 19th will be the last meeting for the Scripture Studies for *Around the Advent Circle*. I want to thank everyone who participated. It went well and we shared some very spiritual discussions. I also want to thank Mike Lance for his help in teaching the evening session.



OCIA: We will be meeting on Tuesday December 19th, from 6-7 pm. Please come to the Parish Center.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Monday, Dec 18th – School Christmas Program 6 pm

Tuesday, Dec. 19th – Scripture Study 10 am and 6:30 pm

Hand chimes practice – 6:30 pm

Wednesday, Dec. 20th – School Christmas break begins.

Friday, Dec. 22nd – Parish Office Closed

Sunday, Dec. 24th – **Merry Christmas!**

STEWARDSHIP

Weekly Target: \$11,153.84 Offering: \$8,483

Campaign for Human Development: \$165 Food Pantry: \$245

Retired Religious: \$1698 Priests Retirement: \$25

Children's Good Deeds

...Being a good big sister...Giving little brother a hug...

...Playing with my little sisters...Helping take care of little brother...Helping Papa make waffles & clean cupboards...

AUBURN AREA CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Clark Switalski, Principal cswitalski@auburnac.org 662-6431

Our virtue this month is Charity. This past Friday, our wagons of love campaign finished. To date, we have delivered 8 full wagons of food for the party at St. Gabriel's. I don't know the poundage of the food, but it is a lot! There is a need in the community and our pantry here is seeing more and more families that are requiring help. Giving of ourselves is one of the hardest things to do because it requires thought and sacrifice. We must make sure we have really processed what we are trying to accomplish through our charity, and then also give of our time, talent, or treasure (sometimes all three). These sacrifices help to build character and give us a different perspective of many other situations in life. Please consider being more charitable and giving of your time, talent, or treasure because the children are watching us and following our example as adults.

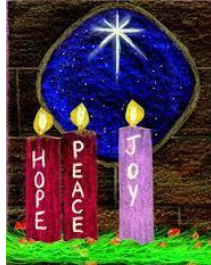
...God Bless...



Father Marc's Minutes...

The Most Wonderful Time of the Year

I hope everyone is having a wonderful Advent season so far. We have celebrated three weeks of Advent. This Sunday I get to wear a *pink vestment*. The pink represents joy. It is a symbol that we are halfway through the liturgical season. The pink shows our joyful anticipation of the Christmas celebration. We have several other things to be grateful for during this Advent season. A family will be selling olive wood carvings to profit Christian families in the Holy Land after the masses this weekend. They will be set up in the social hall. I also want to thank the parish for your incredible generosity with the giving trees and the adopt-a-family program. These families were served, and their Christmas celebrations will truly be special due to your generosity. The school is having their Christmas program on Monday December 18th at 6pm. I am really looking forward to seeing them perform and put us in the Christmas mindset.



Fun Fact



When I was a kid our family would sprinkle reindeer food, a.k.a. glitter, on our front yard on Christmas Eve. We also made sure to put out milk and cookies for Santa. Then on Christmas morning we would gather around the nativity scene in the house and sing “Happy Birthday” to baby Jesus.

Save the Date... AACS is planning to host a Fundraiser Euchre. This will be held on Saturday, February 3rd at 6 pm at the St. Gabriel west campus gym (St. Anthony site). Tickets will go on sale in January and more information will come as we get closer to the date. Mark your calendar now for this fun event and look for new updates in the bulletin.



A Successful Blood Drive!

We hit our goal with 22 successful blood donations on Wednesday, with one first time donor! Those 22 units will go to help the lives of 66 people. In 2023 our parish community helped collect 133 donations that went to help the lives of 399 people. We hope that 2024 will bring an increase in those numbers, it will give us something to work for! Thank you to everyone who helped make our Blood Drive program such a success!



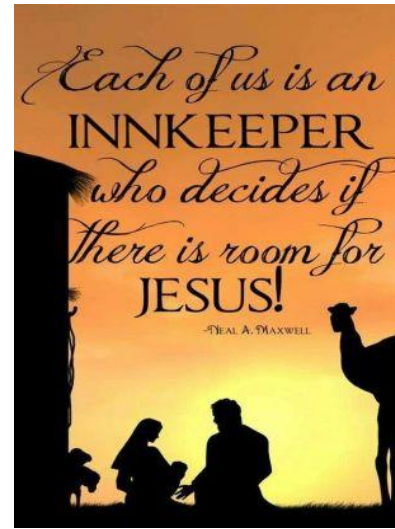
23-24 Christ's Mission Appeal update

Our Christ Mission Appeal assessed amount is \$65,504 for this year. The current pledged amount is \$35,080 which is 53% of our assessment for the 23-24 year pledged by 30% of our Parish families as of December 13th.

Keep up the good work!

Thank you to everyone who bought gifts for the Giving Trees!

We were able to fulfill nearly all the requests that we got from the selected charities. It is a wonderful feeling to hear the grateful appreciation from the organization representatives when they come to pick up the gifts. They always ask that we please share how much of a difference your generosity makes in the lives of their clients!




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Parishioner New Patients Welcome



Michael Kaczynski
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 Cell: 303-242-2650
mckaczynski@sbcglobal.net
 201 Weber St.
 Auburn, Michigan 48611



Jack's TREE SERVICE, INC.
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Karl Hogue DDS
 989-662-6061
 Fax: 989-662-2676
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St. Anthony Cemetery 4485 S. Eleven Mile Auburn, MI 48611 Contact the Parish Office at (989) 662-6861



	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
COLUMBARIUM		
Single (1 Urn)	\$1,100	\$1,600
Double (2 Urns)	\$1,500	\$1,850
Inurnment	\$ 250 per niche	\$ 350 per niche
CEMETERY	Parishioner	Non-Parishioner
Plot	\$ 600	\$1,300
Burial	\$ 750	\$ 900
Burial of Cremains	\$ 250	\$ 275
Saturday Burial	\$ 250 additional	\$ 250 additional